

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN CAROLYN SQUIRES**, on February 2, 2007
at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Carolyn Squires, Chairman (D)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Larry Jent (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Jesse Laslovich (D)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Jim Shockley (R)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Dave Bohyer, Legislative Branch
Lois O'Connor, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 285, 1/30/2007; SB 286,
1/30/2007; SB 308, 1/30/2007; SB
270, 1/30/2007; SB 272, 1/30/2007
Executive Action: None.

00:04:04

HEARING ON SB 285

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:38 **SEN. MIKE COONEY (D), SD 40**, opened the hearing on **SB 285**, Exempt wildlife center from building naming law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:09 Cindy Utterback, Foundation For Animals

00:11:10 Jeff Hagener, Director, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, (FWP)

EXHIBIT(sts23a01)

00:13:41 Richard Sims, Director, Montana Historical Society

00:14:54 Spence Hegstad, Executive Director, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Foundation

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:51 Sen. Jim Shockley to Director Hagener, FWP

00:17:34 Sen. Rick Laible to Sen. Cooney

00:20:48 Sen. Steve Gallus to Sen. Cooney

00:23:13 Sen. Joe Tropila to Sen. Cooney

00:23:36 Sen. Dave Lewis to Sen. Cooney

00:24:39 Sen. Carolyn Squires to Sen. Cooney

00:25:29 Subcommittee on SB 285. Sen. Tropila, Chair

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:01 Sen. Cooney

HEARING ON SB 286

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:55 **SEN. MIKE COONEY (D)**, SD 40, opened the hearing on **SB 286**, Revise capitol complex building naming law.

EXHIBIT(sts23a02)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:33:05 Sarah Etchart

00:34:42 Amy Sullivan, Executive Director, Montana History Foundation

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:36:09 Sen. Gallus to Sen. Cooney

00:38:00 Sen. Cocchiarella to Sen. Cooney

00:39:49 Sen. Squires

Closing by Sponsor:

00:40:17 Sen. Cooney

HEARING ON SB 308

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:41:43 **SEN. JIM PETERSON (R)**, SD 15, opened the hearing on **SB 308**, Revise road levy election law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:44:08 Chris King, Petroleum County Commissioner

00:45:38 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:48:19 Cynthia Johnson, Pondera County Commissioner

00:48:47 Allan Underdal, Toole County Commissioner

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:49:18 Sen. Jeff Essmann to Mr. Blattie, MACo

00:51:30 Sen. Cocchiarella to Mr. Blattie, MACo

00:52:58 Sen. Squires to Mr. Blattie, MACo

Closing by Sponsor:

00:56:55 Sen. Peterson

HEARING ON SB 270

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:58:16 **SEN. LANE LARSON (D), SD 22**, opened the hearing on **SB 270**, Revise filing deadline for independent candidates, minor parties.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:59:06 Robert Throssell, Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders (MACRs)

01:00:21 Bob Gilbert, Rosebud County

01:01:26 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

01:02:00 Elaine Graveley, Election Deputy, The Honorable Secretary of State's Office

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:02:34 Sen. Essmann to Mr. Throssell, MACRs

01:04:58 Sen. Squires to Ms. Graveley, Secretary of State's Office

01:05:40 Mr. Throssell, MACRs

01:05:54 Sen. Squires

01:06:27 Sen. Gallus to Sen. Larson

Closing by Sponsor:

01:08:16 Sen. Larson

01:09:52 Break

01:11:24 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 272

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:11:43 **SEN. JERRY O'NEIL (R), SD 3**, opened the hearing on **SB 272**, Revise campaign contribution reporting.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:14:43 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner of Political Practices

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:16:45 Sen. Tropila to Sen. O'Neil

Closing by Sponsor:

01:17:19 Sen. O'Neil

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 272

01:18:01 **Motion:** **SEN. SHOCKLEY** moved that SB 272 DO PASS.

Discussion:

01:18:15 Sen. Cocchiarella

01:18:39 **Vote: Motion that SB 272 DO PASS carried unanimously
by voice vote. SEN. BALYEAT was excused.**

Discussion:

01:19:01 Sen. Essmann to Mr. Unsworth

01:19:33 Sen. O'Neil to Sen. Squires

01:19:48 Sen. Tropila

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:19 P.M.

SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES, Chairman

LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

CS/lo

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sts23aad.pdf](#))